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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

DIST: 4 NOVEMBER 1994

COUNTRY: GUATEMALA

SUBJ: COMMENTS BY A [REDACTED] GUATEMALAN [REDACTED]
IN THE PRESUMED DEATH OF INSURGENT COMMANDER EFRAIN
BAMACA VELASQUEZ, ALIAS "COMANDANTE EVERARDO"

DOI: [REDACTED]

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE

Date JAN 1999

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SOURCE: [REDACTED]

SUMMARY: NONE.

TEXT: 1. [REDACTED] A [REDACTED] GUATEMALAN [REDACTED] WHO WAS [REDACTED] IN QUETZALTENANGO IN 1992 COMMENTED ABOUT HIS ROLE IN THE APPARENT DEATH OF INSURGENT COMMANDER EFRAIN ((BAMACA)) VELASQUEZ, ALIAS "COMANDANTE EVERARDO."

ON 12 MARCH 1992 [REDACTED] HAD AN ARMED ENCOUNTER WITH A GROUP OF INSURGENTS. TWO INSURGENTS WERE KILLED DURING THE ENCOUNTER, INCLUDING WHAT APPEARED TO BE AN INSURGENT COMMANDER DUE TO HIS AMERICAN CAMOUFLAGED UNIFORM, NEW BOOTS, ICOM RADIO AND THE WEAPON HE CARRIED. [REDACTED] COULD NOT IDENTIFY THE INSURGENT COMMANDER. HOWEVER, [REDACTED] THE DEAD INSURGENT COMMANDER WAS NOT CARRYING ANY IDENTIFICATION AT THE TIME OF HIS DEATH.

2. [REDACTED] CLAIMED HE REPORTED THE CASUALTIES TO THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND THE HUMAN RIGHTS REPRESENTATIVES IN QUETZALTENANGO, WHO HE ASSUMED TOOK CARE OF BURYING THE BODIES. A MONTH AFTER THE ARMED ENCOUNTER, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] INFORMED [REDACTED] THAT [REDACTED] HAD KILLED "EVERARDO" DURING THE ARMED CONFLICT ON 12 MARCH. AS A RESULT [REDACTED]

3. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] IS NOW CERTAIN THAT THE INSURGENT COMMANDER KILLED WAS NOT "EVERARDO," [REDACTED]

COMMENT: IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE ARMY SUBSTITUTED THE BODY OF THE KILLED INSURGENT COMMANDER WITH THAT OF "EVERARDO," WHO APPARENTLY WAS KILLED IN A SEPARATE LOCATION. THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN A WAY OF COVERING UP ANY EVIDENCE OF TORTURE WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN USED ON EVERARDO.) [REDACTED]

4. AS A RESULT OF THE MAJOR MEDIA PUBLICITY BEING GIVEN TO THE BAMACA CASE, [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

AT
THE SAME TIME, MILITARY COMMANDERS WERE TOLD TO PROVIDE ANY
ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATE WITH ANY INVESTIGATION REGARDING THE
BAMACA CASE, AS LONG AS THEY ARE PRESENTED WITH A VALID COURT
ORDER.

ADMIN

ACQ: GUATEMALA, GUATEMALA CITY [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]